

# RABBLE-ROUSER

Committee for a Revolutionary Communist Party in Australia

JANUARY 1996

## GENOCIDAL AUSSIE IMPERIALISM -- WE SPIT ON YOU! Stuff australia day!

On 26th January 1788 a simple ceremony took place at Circular Quay in Sydney. The Union Jack was unfurled and after a few speeches by the newly arrived Governor Phillip and his officials, a detachment of marines aimed their guns into the sky and let go with a volley of shots:- a symbolic declaration of war against the indigenous peoples of Australia. And every January 26th the Australian ruling class and its reactionary social base celebrate Australia's "birthday" with a patriotic belch of reactionary Australia-first nationalism.

The repressive tolerance which the ruling class displays towards Koori survival celebrations, and multicultural festivals notwithstanding, Australia Day is an aggressive assertion of the ugly white "Aussie" chauvinist, speak-English-only identity of the oppressor nation.

The history of Australia is a history of a repeatedly bloody struggle of the indigenous peoples against genocide, systematic theft of their land and destruction of their culture which continues through to the present. The systematic open slaughter continuing to the 1930s where Koories were hunted down, and food and water were laced with poison has given way to wide scale imprisonment, routine police bashings and denial of basic rights and needs.

The genocide hasn't stopped, only the form it takes has changed. The High Court decision in the *Mabo case*, and the related native title laws, rubber stamps genocide and land theft, whilst offering a few swamps and deserts to a select handful. The forced removal of Koori children from their parents under the various "Aborigines Protection Acts" might have ceased, but the outrageously high rate of Koori children and youth in detention centres and jails shows that this genocidal practice continues.

We uphold the right of the Indigenous peoples to rebel against genocidal Australian imperialism and

throw off the chains of national oppression. *We fully support the just struggle of the Indigenous peoples for genuine self-determination. Koories have the right to live according to their own laws and customs, up to and including secession. Australian imperialism owes reparations for its genocidal crimes.*

**"We challenge anyone to give an explanation of why they are patriotic Australians which can't be shown to come down to them wanting to perpetuate a situation where they have a position of privilege at the expense of, and at the cost of tremendous suffering to, the great majority of the world's people, including the dispossessed Indigenous peoples of Australia"**

The history of Australia is also a history of a "White Australia" with the body of legislation known as the White Australia Policy laying the ground for the recurrent waves of white chauvinism directed against immigrants, especially those who come here fleeing from oppressed countries devastated by imperialist domination, or political persecution.

Wealth and privilege in Australia was founded upon the brutal dispossession of the indigenous peoples and built up through: the parasitic relations Australia has with the oppressed countries of the 'Third World'; the privileged inter-imperialist relations Australia maintains in the West; and the exploitation of proletarian, especially immigrant proletarian, labour at home.

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Indigenous peoples of Australia.

In preparation for their centenary of Federation on January 1st, 2001, the Australian imperialists (government and businesses alike) are flat out trying to forge the reactionary national unity they need to defend and extend their piece of the New World Order. This is what the manufactured "republican debate" is all about. It is a ruling class squabble over how best to advance Australia's national (ie imperialist) interests. No matter what the *Australian* flag looks like, it will always represent the class enemy. Our flag is the red flag of international proletarian revolution, not the bloodstained rag of the ruling class.

Australia, as a lesser imperialist, has always intensely manoeuvred for its own interests through close alliances with major imperialists. This "does not mean Australia is oppressed in any way, because whilst the Australian ruling class doesn't always act on its own, it doesn't mean it isn't acting in its own interests. Since the era of imperialism, the Australian monopoly capitalists have relied on close inter-imperialist alliances, advanced their own imperialist interests and enforced the imperialist world order old and 'new' from Africa to the Middle East to Asia and the Pacific. Bougainville, Timor, Vietnam, etc, etc, etc.

The proletariat and oppressed and revolutionary people completely reject Australia Day. **We are proletarian internationalists, not Australians.** We don't have a country. It doesn't belong to the working class and oppressed people in this country. We just happen to live here, that's all.

The oppressed people of the world can't be free if exploiting imperialist countries like Australia are left to continue their domination of the world. The Australian imperialists and the whole capitalist system around the world must be forcibly overthrown.

# SUPPORT THE STRUGGLE OF AUSTRALIA'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLES FOR GENUINE SELF DETERMINATION!

The Aboriginal tribes which took to guerrilla warfare against the Australian colonial-settler state in the 19th century were militarily defeated and subsequently bore the brunt of the white invasion. But Koories have continued to resist.

The same tribes which were the most combative in the 19th century have become the base for Black revolutionary nationalism. For example, one sees a heritage of

resistance in the role the Wiradjuri and Kamilaroi played in the militant struggle around the Aboriginal Tent Embassy in the 1970s, the streetfights in Moree and other towns in the 1980s, and the continuing battles with police in Redfern.

Even though Aboriginal people constitute a tiny proportion of the Australian population, in some rural towns they are in a majority and in some urban centres there are areas where they are in significant numbers.

What is the relationship between the struggle of Australia's indigenous people to end their oppression and other struggles against the system? How can this all be brought together to build a revolutionary movement that can really bring down this system?

Australia's indigenous peoples are not merely subject to racist discrimination. Our Koorie sisters and brothers are subject to national oppression.

Land theft, denial of democratic rights, violent police repression, genocidal attacks upon their cultures, languages and families, exploitation as members of the working class, with permanently high unemployment, the poorest paid jobs, the worst housing, the worst health care and notoriously high arrest and imprisonment rates—all this and more is daily life

for the masses of indigenous people in Australia.

It is these oppressive conditions which can only, and must be, uprooted with revolution.

Land remains the central question for most indigenous tribes; and continues to give rise to struggle and will certainly do so in the future in the context of civil war.

The borders of Australia and its States and Territories are not sacred to the revolutionary people in this country—forged as they were through robbery by the ruling class and the blood of the indigenous peoples. Real, revolutionary communists (the Marxist-Leninist-Maoists) support the Koorie right to genuine self determination, up to and including secession.

Similarly the Koorie call for reparations should be supported.

Communists favour and encourage the revolutionary unity of all oppressed peoples. At the same time, the communists and class-conscious masses must actively support the Koorie right to live on their own autonomous tribal lands, according to their own tribal laws and customs—in united revolutionary struggle now; and in the future proletarian socialist state.

Upholding the just struggles and national rights of the indigenous peoples for genuine self-determination is one of the key cornerstones around which the unity of the revolutionary people is to be built.

At the same time, communists patiently explain to the indigenous proletarians that their real interests lie in fighting alongside proletarians the world over for communism

**"What is the relationship between the struggle of Australia's Indigenous peoples to end their oppression and other struggles against the system? How can this all be brought together to build a revolutionary movement that can really bring this system down?"**

## 1996: Mao Is The Time!

→ The continuing national oppression of Australia's Indigenous peoples; concentration camps for Asian and other refugees; the heightened climate of violence against women; homophobia; new police state measures; mean-spirited welfare cuts; and the brutal enforcement of the imperialist world order from the Middle East to East Timor. Enough is enough!

→ It Is Right To Rebel! declared the great communist leader and teacher Mao Tsetung.

That is what the people on the bottom of society—the class of modern slaves with nothing to lose but its chains—must do: rise up and throw off their oppressors.

→ Yes, revolution is the *only* solution to the crimes the imperialist system metes out to the oppressed in Australia and the world over.

→ In other countries, most notably Peru, our class brothers and sisters are waging People's War and dealing powerful blows to imperialism. In Australia it is the same central task: seizing power and establishing the rule of the proletariat and oppressed.

→ Past victories of the international proletariat haven't been able to be sustained.

The former USSR was a socialist country when it was led by Lenin and Stalin. The destruction of socialism in the USSR came in the mid-1950s with the rise to power of revisionism (personified by Krushchev).

→ Under the leadership of Mao Tsetung, the Chinese revolution made the greatest advances on the road to communism. The defeat of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, by China's current rulers after Mao's death in 1976, has seen socialism replaced by capitalism in China.

→ Proletarians are revolutionary optimists. The world proletarian revolution will speak again in Russian and Chinese!

→ Hastening the advance of the world revolution through defeating Australian imperialism is our duty here. This requires a vanguard communist party based on the proletarian ideology which today is Marxism-Leninism-Maoism (MLM).

Reconstituting the Communist Party of Australia on the basis of MLM is the immediate task facing the genuine communists in Australia.

→ There is an urgent need for a revolutionary movement in Australia leading the people to fight back, moving the masses of people to battle the system today in a way that is guided by revolutionary ideology and serves revolutionary aims. Through this the revolutionary consciousness and organization of the masses must gain fighting experience in class struggle and be built up, preparing the revolutionary people to wage People's War when the conditions are ripe.

*1996—A Year For Revolutionary Preparations! Take Up The Struggle To Build & Strengthen The Revolutionary Movement In Australia! Reconstitute The Communist Party Of Australia On The Basis of Marxism-Leninism-Maoism!*

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